Approved For Release 2001/08/31: CIA-RDP78-04718A001200060015-8



5-7892

9 July 1954

WEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Administration)

SUBJECT

: Independence of Finance Officers in the Field

- 1. In a recent conversation with the Inspector General regarding the audit of the accounts of the first office he stated that it appeared 25X1A6a that the finance officer there had exercised no real control over funds but advanced funds upon request without checking to determine whether the purposes for which they were to be used were authorized by regulations.
- 2. The discussion raised the question as to whether the finance officer in the field is being permitted to exercise an independence of action which is contemplated by regulations. I expressed the view that in many stations the finance officer functions under the Administrative Officer, and in view of the fact that that administrative officer prepares the finance officer's fitness report, it was difficult for him to maintain a position of independence in disbursing matters.
- 3. The Inspector General stated that he would prepare a memorandum to you with a view to having instructions issued to obviate this condition.
- 4. There is attached for consideration suggested instructions to cover this matter. This draft has the concurrence of the Comptroller.

Auditor-in-Chief

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MF: map

Distribution:

Orig & Z - Addressee

1 - Inspector General

1 - Comptroller

1 - Auditor-in-Chief

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